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July 1, 1992

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Holland Shepherd, Senior Reclamation Specialist *HWS*

RE: Inspection Cricket Quarry Mine, Continental Lime Inc., M/027/006, Millard County, Utah

Date of Inspection: 6-25-92

Time of Inspection: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Conditions: Cloudy and warm

Participants: Rody Cox, Cheri Wysong, Cristina Reed, BLM; Rus Dobson,
Continental Lime; Holland Shepherd, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: Evaluate a new permit area, which has been proposed for development under Continental Lime's most recent amendment. Also, to inspect the extent of the current disturbed area.

The operator's millsite is currently going through a new development phase. The operator is constructing a 3rd kiln. The millsite is on State land and is not permitted with the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining. The millsite is located some 3 to 4 miles east of the minesite.

The operator has started development of the state section, that is addressed under the latest amendment. The operator is in the process of scraping the quarry area. Overburden is being deposited over the side of a cliff wall, west of the quarry, as described in the plan. The operator is salvaging topsoil and has initiated a large topsoil stockpile.

We looked at the test plots initiated by the operator 2 years ago. One set of two is located by the crusher and the other set is located on top of the east waste disposal area. There is some plant success apparent on all test plots, most evidenced by shrubs (rabbitbrush and saltbush). Some grass species are apparent too (indian ricegrass and crested wheatgrass). The variety of species is limited in the

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plots to 2 or 3 dominate species. The greatest diversity of plant growth was seen in the test plots where the operator had applied a thin veneer of topsoil (located at the upper waste disposal area). The test plot utilizing both the straw mulch and mushroom mulch apparently supported the most robust stand of saltbush.

Recommendations: I recommend that permit review for this site be given a priority.

jb
cc: Rus Dobson, Continental Lime
Rody Cox, House Range RA, BLM
Jerry Mansfield, State Lands and Forestry
M027006